

Preliminary Amendment  
Reply to Advisory Action dated February 1, 2011  
Application No.: 10/576,422  
June 20, 2011

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following claims for the pending claims with the same numbers respectively:

Claim 1 (Previously presented): A recording medium comprising:

a nonvolatile recording area for storing data;

an update notification part for updating update information of the time of writing or erasing of data to said nonvolatile recording area and holding said update information in said nonvolatile recording area;

a host interface part for communicating with a data processing apparatus; and

a controller for reading and writing data from and to said nonvolatile recording area and supplying the data in said nonvolatile recording area and said update information to said data processing apparatus via said host interface part,

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wherein update information in said update notification part can be read from said data processing apparatus and cannot be written by said data processing apparatus, and

update information in said update notification part is updated only immediately before data of said nonvolatile recording area is first updated after initialization processing of said recording medium conducted at a time when the recording medium is inserted into the data processing apparatus.

Claims 2-10 (Cancelled):

Claim 11 (Previously presented): The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said nonvolatile recording area includes: a data storage area which stores one or more pieces of data; and a search information storage area which stores search information required when the data processing apparatus takes out each data stored in said data storage area, and

at least one of said data storage areas has a field for storing update information in said update notification part.

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Claim 12 (Previously presented): The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said nonvolatile recording area includes: a data storage area which stores one or more pieces of data; and a search information storage area which stores search information required when the data processing apparatus takes out each data stored in said data storage area, and

said search information storage area has the field for storing update information in said update notification part immediately after said data is updated.

Claim 13 (Cancelled):

Claim 14 (Previously presented): A data processing method, wherein a recording medium includes: a nonvolatile recording area for storing data; an update notification part for holding update information of data in said nonvolatile recording area; and a controller for reading and writing data from and to said recording area and supplying the data in said nonvolatile recording area and said update information to a data processing apparatus, and

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said data processing apparatus includes: a slot to which said recording medium is attached; and a data processor for reading data of said recording medium attached to said slot and temporarily storing the data and performing a data processing on the basis of update information read from said recording medium in said update notification part, comprising the steps of:

making possible for update information in said update notification part in said nonvolatile recording area to be read from said data processing apparatus and impossible for update information to be written by said data processing apparatus;

updating said update information by said controller at the time of writing or erasing of data to said nonvolatile recording area; and

determining whether or not data of said nonvolatile recording area in said recording medium has been updated after said data was recorded by determining whether or not update information of a field in the recording area read from said recording medium corresponds to update information in said update notification part read from said recording medium.

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Claims 15-20 (Cancelled):

Claim 21 (New): A recording medium comprising:

a nonvolatile recording area for storing data;

an update notification part for updating update information of the time of writing or erasing of data to said nonvolatile recording area and holding said update information in said nonvolatile recording area;

a host interface part for communicating with a data processing apparatus; and

a controller for reading and writing data from and to said nonvolatile recording area and supplying the data in said nonvolatile recording area and said update information to said data processing apparatus via said host interface part,

wherein update information in said update notification part can be read from said data processing apparatus and cannot be written by said data processing apparatus, and

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update information in said update notification part is updated only immediately before data of said nonvolatile recording area is first updated after initialization processing of said recording medium conducted at a time when the recording medium is inserted into the data processing apparatus; and

wherein the controller reads the update information in said update notification part prior to the reading or writing of data and then reads the update information in said update notification part again and compares the values of the update information prior to reading or writing and following reading or writing to determine if the values correspond to each other for further processing.